

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A nonwoven barrier laminate comprising
  - (a) outer spunbonded layers;
  - 5 (b) at least one hydrophobic microporous layer between the outer spunbonded layers;
  - (c) at least one discrete conductive layer comprising electrically conductive strands; and
  - (d) a multiplicity of discrete bond sites bonding together said layers to  
10 form a coherent fabric.
2. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1 wherein said electrically conductive strands are selected from the group consisting of carbon filaments and metallic filaments.
3. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1 wherein said  
15 electrically conductive strands comprise multicomponent fibers or filaments having at least one nonconductive polymer component and at least one conductive component.
4. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1 wherein said electrically conductive strands comprise monocomponent filaments formed from a polymer containing a conductive melt-additive.
- 20 5. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1 wherein said conductive layer comprises from about 0.1 to 0.5 weight percent of the barrier laminate..
6. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1 wherein said conductive layer has a basis weight ranging from about 0.01 to 0.5 gsm.
7. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1, wherein said  
25 conductive layer has a basis weight of about 0.2 gsm.

8. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1 wherein said laminate has a static decay time of about 0.10 seconds or less for a negative charge to dissipate from 5000V to 500V.
9. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 8, wherein said laminate has a hydrohead of at least about 35 cm and alcohol repellency of about 6.0 or more.
10. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1, wherein said electrically conductive strands are arranged randomly within the conductive layer.
11. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic microporous layer comprises meltblown fiber.
12. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 1, wherein said spunbond layers and hydrophobic microporous layer comprise polypropylene filaments.
13. A nonwoven barrier laminate comprising
- (a) outer spunbonded layers comprising substantially continuous thermoplastic filaments;
  - (b) at least one hydrophobic microporous layer comprising meltblown microfibers between the outer spunbonded layers;
  - (c) at least one discrete conductive layer comprising electrically conductive filaments located between one of said outer spunbond layers and said at least one hydrophobic microporous layer; and
  - (d) a multiplicity of discrete point bond sites bonding together said layers to form a coherent fabric.
14. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 13, wherein said outer spunbond layers and said meltblown microfibers are polypropylene.
15. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 13, wherein said electrically conductive filaments comprise multicomponent filaments including at least one nonconductive polymer component and at least one electrically conductive component.

16. A nonwoven barrier laminate according to Claim 13, wherein said outer spunbond layers are treated with a topical fluid repellant composition.

17. A process for producing a nonwoven barrier laminate comprising:

- (a) directing a plurality of substantially continuous electrically nonconductive filaments onto an underlying longitudinally advancing collection surface to form a first outer spunbond web;
- (b) directing a plurality of substantially discontinuous electrically nonconductive filaments onto the longitudinally advancing first spunbond web to form a meltblown web;
- (c) directing a plurality of electrically conductive strands onto either the meltblown web or onto the first spunbond web to form an electrically conductive layer;
- (d) directing a plurality of substantially continuous electrically nonconductive filaments onto either said electrically conductive layer or said meltblown web to form a second outer spunbond layer; and
- (e) bonding said first outer spunbond web, said meltblown web, said electrically conductive layer and said second outer spunbond web to form a cohesive barrier laminate.

18. A process according to Claim 17, wherein said step of directing electrically conductive strands further comprises transporting one or more electrically conductive strands through an air gun.

19. A process according to Claim 17, wherein said step of directing electrically conductive strands further comprises discharging electrically conductive strands from respective ones of a series spaced apart air guns arranged across the collection surface and depositing the strands anisotropically across the width of the underlying longitudinally advancing web.

20. A process according to Claim 17, wherein said step of directing electrically conductive strands further comprises discharging electrically conductive strands from respective ones of a series spaced apart air guns arranged across the collection surface and depositing the strands in distinct longitudinally extending zones  
5 across the width of the underlying longitudinally advancing web.